

For Immediate Release:  
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## **DCR TO HOLD WORKSHOP ON QUABBIN RESERVOIR'S PUBLIC ACCESS AND RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) will hold a workshop on Tuesday, April 12, 2005 to update the community on the Public Access and Recreation Management Plan for the Quabbin Reservoir Watershed. The workshop will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be held at the Chestnut Hill School Auditorium in Belchertown. Staff from the DCR/Division of Water Supply Protection will present the plan, followed by an extensive period for Q&A, and discussion of the issues with the aid of a moderator.

The DCR was formed in 2003 by the merger of the old Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) and the Department of Environmental Management (DEM), both of which previously oversaw aspects of the Quabbin Reservoir Watershed.

The Division of Water Supply Protection, under the new DCR, is now responsible for the management and protection of drinking water supply watersheds for nearly 2.2 million residents of Massachusetts in 47 communities, which represents approximately 40% of the state's population. The Quabbin Reservoir, Ware River, and Wachusett Reservoir watersheds are the sources of drinking water for the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA).

The workshop will provide an update on the public access and recreation management plan and is an essential tool in the management and protection of these drinking water supply watersheds.

The event is free and open to all; for further information or directions please call the Quabbin Visitor Center at 413-323-7221.

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